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## AFL Supports Total Defense Program, But Will Fight For Labor's Rights

**Legislative Recommendations  
Warn Against Attempts to  
Impair Labor Standards.**

Washington, D. C.—Full support for President Roosevelt's defense policies and for the extension of "total aid" to the democratic nations which have been attacked by totalitarian aggressors was pledged in the American Federation of Labor's legislative program for 1941.

In presenting this comprehensive

The Federation warned Congress it will oppose "with every ounce of its power and influence" any legislative

However, the AFL stressed the fact that its affiliated unions have acted and will continue to take action to avoid and renounce strikes as a matter of patriotic policy in order not to impede defense production.

"Experience in Great Britain has shown that consultation with labor

and full representation of labor on all agencies dealing with defense production are vital factors in obtaining maximum cooperation," the program stated. "We will continue to press for full representation of the American Federation of Labor on all Government defense agencies."

"We call upon our friends in Congress to see to it that the standards established for labor in America be maintained."

The program called for large new appropriations for defense housing which can be adapted to the post-emergency needs of low-income families.

It asked for new appropriations for the Dies Committee and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate

Basic amendments to the National Labor Relations Act which were overwhelmingly approved at the last AFL convention were again submitted to Congress. It was emphasized that these amendments would strengthen, rather than weaken the Act and guarantee fair and unbiased administration.

Enactment of the two Wagner-McCormack bills introduced at the last session of Congress to improve and extend the old-age pension and unemployment compensation provisions of the Social Security Act was urgently recommended with the proviso that changes be made to protect the existing pension rights of public employees in the future.

Because of the rapid pace of re-employment, due to the expansion of national defense production, the AFL predicted a sharp decrease in unemployment rolls and disclosed it will not oppose "reasonable reductions" in relief appropriations.

"Our program is thoroughly patriotic and constructive," Mr. Greer declared. "It does not seek selfish advantage for labor at the expense of the national welfare. On the contrary, it pledges labor to make sacrifices for the national welfare."